(SRI B. D. JATTI)

MINES AND GEOLOGY

PLAN SCHEME

II FIVE-YEAR PLAN

Plan provision	...	Rs. 7,77,700	
Expenditure	...	Rs. 7,63,556	98%

The following were the important schemes under the II Five Year Plan:

(a) Investigation for Sulphide ore in Chitaldrug District;

(b) Investigation for Iron ore in the West Coast areas of the State.

The investigation under sulphide scheme has been helpful in proving the reserves of Iron Pyrites at about 2 million tons near Ingaldhal, Chitradurga District.

Under the Second Scheme, Survey and Prospecting was conducted in parts of South Kanara, North Kanara and Shimoga Districts, resulting in location of Iron ore deposits estimated at 90 million tons, within a distance of 50-60 miles from the West Coast Ports of the State.

III FIVE-YEAR PLAN

		Rs.
Plan provision	...	25,00,000
Provision for two years	...	12,70,500
Expenditure for two years	...	12,03,100

Under the Plan programme, the Department has taken up for execution, seven new schemes besides the two continuation schemes with a view to locate and assess the deposits of selected minerals like Limestone, Fuller's Earth, Bauxite, Heavy minerals, Kyanite, Sillimanite and Gold.

During the first two years of the III Plan period, the following mineral deposits have been located and their reserves assessed:—

(1) Iron ore	...	About 200 million tons of marketable grade.
(2) Limestone	...	About 600 million tons
(3) Fuller's Earth	...	About 1 million tons

These investigations have been helpful for formulating schemes for setting up additional cement factories, Iron and Steel Plants and also export trade.

All these schemes will be continued during remaining period of the III Five-Year Plan programme.

Activities outside the Plan items:—

There was considerable increase in the output and export of iron ore in the State, which reached a quantity of about 2,5 million tonnes

this year as against 1.8 million tonnes for the preceding year. Despite the reduction in prices offered by the foreign buyers, the trade continues to be on the increase.

BOARD OF MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

The Board of Mineral Development formed to facilitate the exploitation of the mineral resources of the State maintained sustained progress and its activities indicated a steady line of all round improvement. The main lines of business activity are (a) its undertaking with the M.M.T.C. New Delhi, which has the monopoly of Iron ore export, for supplying iron ore for export, marketing of which fetches valuable foreign exchanges so essentially required by the country for development and defence purposes, (b) and the production and sale of important minerals, particularly Manganese. Firm contracts have been entered into with M.M.T.C., for supplies of 4.75 lakhs tonnes of Iron ore for 1963-64 season (and partly in 1964-65). Contract has been finalised for the export of 1 lakh tons of Manganese from Western parts.

The tonnage production of minerals was 5 2 lakh tons for 1962-63 against 3 8 lakhs for 1961-62. The sales also recorded a striking increase to Rs 115 lakhs in 1962-63 against Rs. 55 lakhs in 1961-62 and it has come up to 94.00 lakhs so far in 1963-64. An important feature is encouraging signs of firm demand for low grade Manganese ore which is developing a good market in Japan and East European countries, though the general market for Manganese depressed.

In pursuit of its developmental activities the Board has organised improvement activities in 2nd and 3rd Five Year Plan Programmes covering Iron, Manganese, Chromite and China Clay. The important objectives aimed at in the plan programme are not only improving the tempo of mining ore but more to improve the stacking facilities at rai -heads and port yards, transport and movement of ore and shipping and loading facilities. More advantage is being taken of the West Coast Ports of Karwar, Coondapur Honavar and Mangalore and the ore carrying roads are being developed.

The outlay on plan schemes and achievements are noted below :

(Figures in lakhs).

		Iron		Manganese	
	Outlay Rs. (lakhs.)	Production (Tons)	Sales Target	Production	Sales Target
II Plan—					
(a) Five Year Plan 1956-61.	23.92	1.82	...	0.87	...
III Five Year Plan—					
(b) 1st Two Years ...	15.01	5.51	2.10	1.09	0.30
(c) III Year of III Plan (expected figures).	9.50	5.00	4.35	1.00	1.10

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STORES PURCHASE COMMITTEE

The Office of the Stores Purchase Committee was constituted some 3½ years ago with a Gazetted Officer of the rank of an Assistant Commissioner as (Secretary, Stores Purchase Committee) assisted by Small Ministerial Staff borne on Secretariat Cadre. After the States Re-organisations, another Gazetted Officer of the Rank of Assistant Director, Industries and Commerce joined the organisation from the erstwhile Hyderabad State.

The set up on the Stores Purchase Committee in the enlarged New Mysore State having been found inadequate in many respects for the purpose which it is intended to serve, the President, Stores Purchase Committee, after studying the Stores Purchase Organisations in the adjoining States and the set up at the Centre, forwarded proposals for the reorganisation of the existing Stores Purchase Committee in May 1961. The proposals were also supported by the Resources and Economy Committee.

The proposals envisage the creation of a separate department under the charge of a wholetime Director in the Senior I.A.S. cadre with a separate full-fledged inspection wing with some additions to the Gazetted and Non-Gazetted staff. The proposals are receiving the active consideration of Government.

The total value of the orders placed during the year 1962-63 is Rs. 4,40,92,742.03 nP., and the number of enquiries and Local Indents issued during the said period is given below :

No. of enquiries	*No. of Local Indents.*
430	432

The total value of the orders placed from 1st April 1963 to 31st August 1963, is Rs. 50,74,627.35 nP., and the number of enquiries and local indents issued during the current year is as below :

No. of enquiries.	*No. of Local Indents.*
312	256
(From 1st April 1963 to 31st December 1963.)	(From 1st April 1963 to 31st December 1963).

SERICULTURE

The area under mulberry reached 1.30 lakhs at the end of the First Plan, and came up to 1.80 lakhs before the end of the Second Plan and

is further increasing and will reach more than 2 lakhs before the end of the Third Plan. Similarly there has been corresponding increase in respect of families engaged in the industry.

The production of silk which was round about 10 lakhs of pounds before the Plans started, is now nearly 22.5 lakhs of pounds and the most noteworthy feature is that, as against production of nearly 75,000 pounds of quality silk in the over-all production before the Plans started it is now nearly 9 lakh pounds and this indeed is a remarkable achievement of industry of the State.

The State has a programme to increase the production of filature silk from the normal 1.25 lakhs per annum to 4 lakhs of pounds and steps have been taken already by the State to increase the production steadily. The year 1963-64 is likely to end with a total production of 2.5 lakhs of pounds of filature silk and, before the end of the Third Plan, this State would have got up a production of 3.5 lakhs of pounds.

The number of Seed Stations which was 23 at the end of the First Plan, came up to 38 at the end of the Second Plan, and just now in the middle of the Third Plan the number is 48.

The scheme of running Chawki Centres requires special mention. Now there are at least 60 Centres functioning and before the end of the Third Plan period there will be nearly 108 centres. The Sericulturists benefited by these centres are in a position to save labour of 10 to 12 days once in two months, or in another words about 70 days labour in the year.

The Cocoon markets opened under the Silk Worm Seed and Cocoon (Regulation of Production, Supply, and Distribution) Act, 1959 have been very popular in the State.

For the utilisation of the bye-product of the industry, namely, silk waste, Government's Spun Silk Mills has been functioning satisfactorily and we have a programme to replace 1,500 spindles with imported ones so as to improve the quality of what is produced and also reduce the cost of production. There was a free export of silk waste and the Mysore Government have taken up the matter with the Centre to restrict this export, as otherwise indigenous Mills would suffer. With the required steps being taken in this regard, it will be possible for the Spun Silk Mills to work to its full capacity and utilise all the silk waste produced at least in the southern parts of India.

Recently the occurrence of wild silk worms has been detected in the forest areas in the western side of the State and potentialities for developing this industry appear great and it is proposed to undertake the development of this branch of the industry also in the coming years.